

the

WEB

# Workforce Education Bulletin

Bringing you the latest news on the people and events at the  
Arkansas Department of Workforce Education

January 2008



## In This Issue

Welcome .....	1
What's News .....	2
Birthdays .....	3
Profiles .....	4-5
Calendar .....	7

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### Director

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Reginald L. Jackson

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**Jillian Watson**  
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Rehabilitation Services  
Sherwood Field Office  
Rehabilitation Counselor



**Welcome!**

# What's News?

**Nancy Grinder**, Accounting Technician for the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Central Office, reports that her daughter, former Rehab Services Special Programs staffer **Jeanie Walker** recently graduated from Baptist Health School of Nursing. Now a Licenced Practical Nurse (LPN), she will be working at Baptist Rehab Hospital starting this month.

**Marion Fletcher**, Program Manager for DWE's CTE/ Agricultural Science and Technology division, has a brand new granddaughter. Born December 13 to first-time parents **April** and **Doyle Fletcher** of Heartland, Texas, **Evalyn Riannon Fletcher** weighed 6 lbs., 2 oz. at birth. This is Marion's third grandchild and first granddaughter.



**Evalyn Riannon Fletcher**

**Shannon Gitchel**, Rehabilitation Counselor at the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Fayetteville office, and her husband **Dent**, became the proud parents of **Lilah Rose** the morning of January 7. Lilah, their first child, weighed in at 4 lbs., 13 oz.

**Myrtle Johnson**, Division of Rehabilitation Services counselor from Pine Bluff, was in an automobile accident on December 14. She is recuperating steadily with plans to report back to work soon.

**Caprishia Williams**, Human Resources Administrative Assistant at the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Central Office, received an engagement ring for Christmas. The wedding date has not yet been set, but Caprishia will be happy to show you her ring!

**Our heartfelt Sympathy** is extended to **Lee Griffith**, Associate Director of Workforce Training at the Department of Workforce Education, on the passing of his mother, **Charlene Baldridge**, January 13.

Thoughts and prayers also go out to **Debby Larsen**, Division of Rehabilitation Services' Secretary in the Hot Springs Field Office, on the loss of her father, **Charles L. Fager, Jr.**, on January 11.

**Shayla Nicole Gill** graduated from the University of Central Arkansas on December 15. She is the daughter of **Gloria Gill**, Administrative Assistant for Program Planning, Development and Evaluation (PPD&E) at the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Central Office.



**Shayla Nicole and Gloria Gill**

Shayla received a Bachelor of Education degree with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education. On December 19, she was hired by the Little Rock School District to teach 3rd grade at Washington Interdistrict Magnet Elementary School.

Congratulations to **Maria Rose** of the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Monticello field office. Maria completed her requirements for her Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling in December!

## **One of the Top 10 surveyed resolutions made by people for the New Year is to Help Others/ Volunteer More.**

If you are one who has made such a resolution, you might be interested to know that January 2008 was proclaimed **National Mentoring Month** by President Bush on December 19.

National Mentoring Month is an annual, high-profile campaign to draw attention to the need for more volunteer mentors to help America's young people achieve their full potential. This year's theme is "Share What You Know. Mentor a Child."

Throughout the month of January, the Harvard Mentoring Project, MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership, the Corporation for National and Community Service, and USA Freedom Corps are spearheading the effort to raise awareness of ways that individuals can lend their support to this important cause. People interested in becoming mentors are asked to go to [www.mentoring.org](http://www.mentoring.org), where they can find organizations offering mentoring opportunities in their local community. The website [www.WhoMentoredYou.org](http://www.WhoMentoredYou.org) also has information on how to participate in *Thank Your Mentor Day* on Thursday, January 24, 2008.





## Hot Springs Rehabilitation Center Honors Employee

January 2008  
Employee of the Month

Chris Magness  
LPN  
Medical Clinic

# Happy Birthday

## February 2008

### Colleagues send thoughts and prayers to Department of Workforce Education staffer Bart Draper

**Bart Draper**, Public School Program Advisor for DWE's Career and Technical Education Agricultural Science and Technology division, was diagnosed December 20 with Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia (APL). Doctors have started him on two types of chemotherapy.

Draper is the loving and devoted father of two boys -- Noah, six and a half months old, and Dominick, four years old. Bart has been married to his wife Kristal for 16 years.

Family and friends have set up a website, <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/bartdraper>, with the message, "please pray for his complete recovery and for him to have good days as he recovers."

The site also includes daily updates on his progress,

family photographs, and an opportunity to send your own well wishes to the Draper family. Please feel free to visit these pages and check in with our colleague.

Bart and Kristal wish to express their appreciation for everyone who is posting messages to the site, and for everyone's prayers and concerns. The cards and messages provide him encouragement to know that so many people are concerned about his health.



Draper catches a nap  
with sons Noah (left) and Dominick

- 2/1** Debra Allison  
Emily Neal
- 2/3** Marylene Mitchell-Tate
- 2/4** Timothy Johnston
- 2/6** Ginger Fisher
- 2/7** Sharon Eichhorn  
Charley Hilton, Jr.
- 2/8** Connie Morrow
- 2/9** Carolyn Turner
- 2/10** Jeannette Brewer  
Catherine Ward
- 2/11** Sterling Hughes, Sr.
- 2/12** Tracy Andrews  
Marva Dansby  
Brian Harvey  
Dianne Sugg
- 2/14** Herbert Pierce
- 2/15** Charley Merkey  
Margaret Ritter
- 2/17** Brian Adams
- 2/18** Karen Osburn
- 2/21** Barbara Starks
- 2/22** Annette Guinn  
Tameca Jackson  
Maria Vidal
- 2/23** Subrina Cogburn
- 2/24** Eddie Schmeckenbecher
- 2/25** Steve Blair  
Carl Daughtery  
Mamie Lee  
Cassandra Williams
- 2/28** Stephen Green  
Freddie Harshaw

# Profile: Anita Martin

Department of Workforce Education  
Adult Education Administrative Assistant

**Place of Birth:** Little Rock

**Pet Peeve:** Arrogant or rude people

**Favorite Music:** Christian Contemporary

**Favorite Vacation:** San Diego and Los Angeles  
when all my kids were young

**Favorite Food:** Steak

**Favorite Movie:** If I have to pick just one - Steel  
Magnolias

**When I retire:** I want to travel and spend time  
with my family

**Family:** Husband, Larry, 5 children and 10  
grandchildren

**My Job Is:** Administrative Assistant in Adult Education

**If I Had a Choice,  
I'd Rather Be ...** on vacation somewhere on the East coast

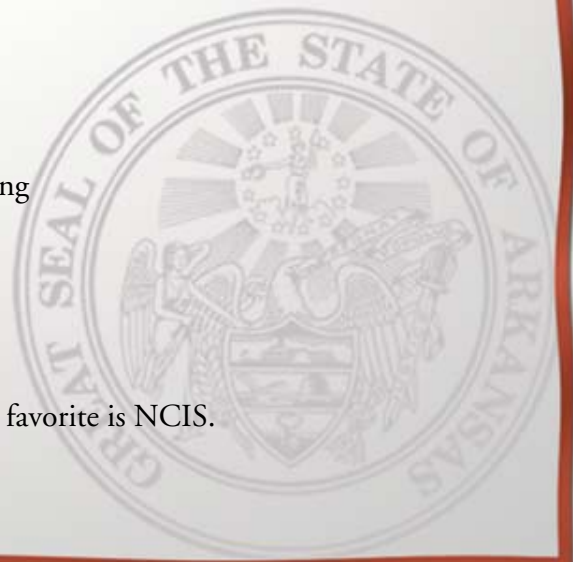
**My Favorite Books:** The Left Behind series

**My Favorite  
Hobbies Are:** Sewing, knitting, crocheting, crafts and walking

**Favorite Season  
of the Year:** Fall

**Favorite All  
Time TV Show:** That's a lot of years of TV!! Right now my favorite is NCIS.

**What Motivates Me:** Desire to do the best job I can





# Profile: Deirdre Massey

Division of Rehabilitation Services  
Secretary/District II - West Memphis

**Place of Birth:** West Memphis

**Pet Peeve:** *Two:* Being lied to, and leaving the toilet seat up!

**Favorite Music:** I enjoy listening to a variety...from R&B to Gospel

**Favorite Vacation:** Atlanta, Georgia, and in my dreams: Jamaica

**Favorite Food:** Rice

**Favorite Movie:** *What's Love Got To Do With It*

**When I retire:** I will just be glad to have reached that age in life with many accomplishments!

**Family:** I have a 3-year old son, Darrion (he is my life), Mother and Father (Ann and Kirby) and an older sister (Trina).

**My Job Is:** I enjoy being supportive not only to the counselors but also to the many clients that come through the doors.

**If I Had a Choice, I'd Rather Be ...** Doing whatever I want to do!

**My Favorite Books:** Any book that can keep my attention and interest is a favorite of mine.

**My Favorite Hobbies Are:** Shopping, Shopping, Shopping....

**Favorite Season of the Year:** Spring time

**Favorite All Time TV Show:** *Good Times* and *CSI* (all shows)

**What Motivates Me:** My son and my heart





# Holiday Redux




**Seasonal celebrations continued throughout December** following the distribution of December's "Festive Photo" WEB issue. Above, the Division of Rehabilitation Services' Central Office staff served up their eagerly anticipated potluck. Below, FFA state officers held a scheduled meeting at DWE's Lu Hardin Building but found time to swap fun gifts and enjoy the company of their peers.





# February 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>  <p>Our next calendar will highlight events for the month of March 2008. Please send the dates of any activities your office/department has scheduled and would like indicated on the WEB's monthly calendar.</p> </div>						
3	4 AR IT Instructors' In-Service Nat'l Park Comm. Coll. Hot Springs	5 Develop. Programs of Study - Perkins Reserve Fund Crowne Plaza Little Rock February 5 and 6	6 FCCLA Leadership Conf. Dist 1 - Springdale, Har-ber High Sch. Dist 6 - Jacksonville Community Ctr. Dist 4 - Pine Bluff (UAPB tentative)	7	8 FBLA District VI Sen. High Spring Conf. North Arkansas Coll. Harrison	9
10	11	12 FCCLA Leadership Conf. Dist 3 - Valley View Auditorium (tentative)	13	14	15 FCCLA Leadership Conf. Dist 2 - Beebe High School	16
17	18	19	20	21 State STAR Events Lead. Consult. Mtg. AR Adult Learn. Resources Ctr. Little Rock	22	23
24 DECA State Career Dev. Conf. Rogers February 24 and 25	25 February 24 and 25	26	27	28	29 Southern Leadership, Ag Mechanics & Electricity CDE. Southern AR Univ. - Magnolia	